

MAR 13 2015

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## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING THE QUEEN'S TRANSPLANT CENTER TO SHARE INFORMATION ON  
THE MATCHINGDONORS ONLINE REGISTRY WITH NEW PATIENTS  
BEGINNING THE KIDNEY TRANSPLANT QUALIFYING PROCESS AND WITH  
PATIENTS CURRENTLY ON THE WAITING LIST FOR A KIDNEY  
DONATION.

1 WHEREAS, this body finds that the need for viable organ  
2 donations, especially kidney donations, has increased in Hawaii  
3 as the State's population has become older, obesity has risen,  
4 and diabetes has affected the lives of many of residents; and  
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6 WHEREAS, the pool of donors has remained quite small,  
7 providing fewer than ten living donor organ donations per year  
8 in the State, despite the fact that there are currently more  
9 than four hundred fifty people on Hawaii's organ transplant  
10 waiting list; and  
11

12 WHEREAS, in recent years, Hawaii has maintained the longest  
13 transplant list, per capita, of any state; and  
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15 WHEREAS, the geographical and financial challenges to  
16 donating an organ in Hawaii also contribute to the low incidence  
17 of donations, as many potential donors live on the neighbor  
18 islands and the only available transplant team in Hawaii is  
19 located at The Queen's Medical Center in Honolulu; and  
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21 WHEREAS, due to these challenges, many potential neighbor  
22 island donors cannot afford to provide the donation due to the  
23 costs of travel, lost wages, high lodging costs in Honolulu, and  
24 other related expenses; and  
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26 WHEREAS, Hawaii also faces ethnic and cultural challenges  
27 to living organ donation; for example, Pacific Islanders often  
28 have an antigen in their blood that requires them to receive  
29 organs from an ethnically similar donor with the same antigen;  
30 and



1  
2 WHEREAS, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, Filipino, and  
3 Japanese ethnic groups traditionally have a risk for chronic  
4 kidney disease that is two to four times greater than for other  
5 ethnicities in Hawaii, also contributing to a greater need for  
6 local donors; and  
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8 WHEREAS, when an individual in Hawaii is in need of a  
9 kidney transplant, the individual is reviewed by The Transplant  
10 Team of The Pacific, who judges the individual's viability to be  
11 placed on the State's waiting list of patients in need of living  
12 or cadaver donations; and  
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14 WHEREAS, a national organ donor registry program is  
15 operated by MatchingDonors, a non-profit organization, through a  
16 website called [www.matchingdonors.com](http://www.matchingdonors.com); and  
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18 WHEREAS, a patient in need of an organ or a United States  
19 citizen wishing to donate an organ, for a nominal fee or no fee  
20 at all, may gain a profile on this registry in order to be  
21 matched by blood type to obtain the needed organ or to be  
22 matched with someone willing to donate; and  
23

24 WHEREAS, statistics from MatchingDonors show that a high  
25 percentage of people who are in need of an organ donor and  
26 register through [www.matchingdonors.com](http://www.matchingdonors.com) become matched with a  
27 viable candidate for a transplant within six to nine months of  
28 registering; and  
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30 WHEREAS, MatchingDonors sets up and provides all necessary  
31 laboratory work, facilitates all lodging, and coordinates  
32 medical and after care during the process, resulting in an  
33 enhanced organ transplant process for all involved; now,  
34 therefore,  
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36 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth  
37 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, the  
38 House of Representatives concurring, that The Queen's Transplant  
39 Center is requested to share information on the MatchingDonors  
40 online registry with each new patient beginning the kidney  
41 transplant qualifying process, including the information



1 necessary for patients to place themselves on Hawaii's state  
2 list as well as on the www.matchingdonors.com registry; and  
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that The Queen's Transplant Center  
5 is requested to share this information with patients presently  
6 on Hawaii's waiting list for a kidney donation so that they also  
7 have an opportunity to register; and  
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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
10 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to The Queen's Transplant  
11 Center, Governor, and Director of Health.  
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OFFERED BY: Will Ege

